

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

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61

ACTION ARA-17

INFO OCT-01 ADP-00 SS-14 NSC-10 CIAE-00 DODE-00 INR-09

NSAE-00 PA-03 RSC-01 USIA-12 PRS-01 AID-20 EB-11

COME-00 PM-09 /108 W

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R 161920 Z MAR 73

FM AMEMBASSY MONTEVIDEO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4027

INFO AMEMBASSY BUENOS AIRES

CINCSO

CONFIDENTIAL MONTEVIDEO 0817

E. O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PINT, AR, UY

SUBJ: REACTION TO CAMPORA ELECTORAL VICTORY

CINCSO FOR POLAD

REF: STATE 047909

1. THE ARGENTINE ELECTIONS WERE WATCHED WITH GREAT LOCAL INTEREST, GIVEN THE CLOSE TIES BETWEEN URUGUAY AND ITS GIANT NEIGHBOR.

2. SPOKESMEN FOR THE TRADITIONAL COLORADO AND BLANCO PARTIES WELCOMED ARGENTINA'S RETURN TO DEMOCRATIC ELECTIONS. FEARFUL OF GROWING MILITARY POWER IN THE URUGUAYAN GOVERNMENT, THEY STRESS THAT THE VOTE REPRESENTS AN OVERWHELMING REJECTION OF THE ARGENTINE MILITARY RULERS AND BLAME THEIR INEFFECTIVENESS FOR THE PERSISTENCE OF PERON'S APPEAL. WHILE URUGUAY SUFFERED UNDER THE PERON REGIME, THE HOPE IS EXPRESSED THAT PERONISM HAS CHANGED IN THE PAST 18 YEARS.

3. URUGUAYAN LEFT APPEARS PLEASED WITH THE PERONIST VICTORY, INTERPRETING ELECTION AS A VICTORY OF "PROGRESSIVE FORCES" AND A DEFEAT FOR THE RIGHT.

4. A SENIOR FOREIGN MINISTRY SOURCE TOLD AN EMBOFF THAT

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CAMPORA'S ATTITUDE TOWARDS CUBA WILL IN ALL LIKLIHOOD FURTHER WEAKEN OAS SANCTIONS POLICY, ALTHOUGH HE SAID URUGUAY WILL MAINTAIN ITS DETERMINATION TO ACT ON SANCTIONS ISSUE ONLY IN CONCERT WITH THE OAS.

5. AMERICAN BUSINESSMEN HAVE EXPRESSED TO US SOME ANXIETY THAT A PERONIST GOVERNMENT WILL INTERFERE WITH TRADE BETWEEN URUGUAY AND ARGENTINA, PERHAPS BY REINSTATING STATE CONTROL OF FOREIGN TRADE.

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*** Current Classification *** CONFIDENTIAL

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